

HB Print.co.uk

Colour Printers & Publishers

FULL PRINT & DESIGN SERVICE
LEAFLETS • COLOUR COPYING • BUSINESS STATIONERY
DIGITAL PRINTS • CALENDARS • POSTERS • FLYERS
RAFFLE TICKETS • BUSINESS CARDS • NCR INVOICE BOOKS
COLLATING & MAILING • WEB DESIGN
+ MUCH MUCH MORE!

Why you should choose **HB Print...**

- FREE** colour proofs - electronic or hard copy
 - NO CHARGE** or disc handling or file uploads
 - SAME DAY SERVICE** available for a variety of jobs
 - FRIENDLY SERVICE** - walk into our office at anytime
 - FAST TURNAROUNDS** - we can work to your deadlines
- ...why not call for a quote?**

Visit our website at www.hbprint.co.uk or tel **01289 307553**
 47 Bridge Street, Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 1ES • sales@hbprint.co.uk

JOIN THE TRUST! FROM ONLY £2

The on-going success of the Trust is down to the members who support it. We are currently looking to break the 200 members barrier and we would ask you to help us do it. If you are not currently a member, or you know someone who would like to join us, please complete the form and send it to 10 Golden Sq, Berwick TD15. If you would like, a Trust representative can call at your house or workplace to get you signed up and talk you through what the Trust is all about. Alternatively we can send you an application form. You can contact the Trust by emailing: trust@berwickrangers.co.uk or telephoning 01289 333103.

Name

Address

Telephone

E-Mail

Call Me Visit Me Post a Form



Berwick Rangers Supporters Trust

Working for Club & Community



Trust Members Newsletter • Winter 2006 /7 • Free to Members • Issue No. 9

from the chairman...

Welcome to the latest Newsletter of the Berwick Rangers Supporters Trust.

On behalf of the Trust committee, may I extend our sincere best wishes for a happy Christmas and a prosperous 2007, and of course, 3rd Division Champions in May!



This issue describes a lot of activity in recent months. Events such as the Pilot Race Night and the Championship Dinner created a lot of very positive comment, and it was fantastic to see former players such as Dave Smith and Eric Tait renewing friendships after almost 30 years.

Gordon Dickson gives a report on the Trust Shop, and thanks to Gordon for his great work in putting together our first Calendar. The Youth Initiative continues to flourish, and we're delighted to play some part in that, with financial support through the production of match programmes by Colin Pike and Paul Smith.

I'd also like to welcome Mark Swanston as the new Trust Secretary, having taken over from David Cook in September. David has put in an enormous amount of work, going back to 2003 when he was instrumental in creating the Trust as we know it now.

We know we can continue to rely on his advice when required and he will remain an active member, but thanks to 'Cookie' for great service to the Committee over the last three years.

You'll read elsewhere about our 150th member - we've been pretty close to achieving that target for some time so it's nice to get there. Now we're aiming for 200, so please, sign up your family, friends, or even those you don't particularly like, to support our aims.

All the best,
John

Main Picture: Berwick Rangers U19s

inside...



We Pay Tribute to the 1979 Team



Our Season Half Term Review



Trust Continue Youth Support



Trust Hold Successful Race Night

Online @ www.berwickrangers.co.uk

You can contact us via email: trust@berwickrangers.co.uk

where sold - **£1**



Championship Dinner

Tuesday 4th April 2006, not a date too familiar with many unless it is somebody's birthday that you know. But this was the date that the Trust's most adventurous project to date actually started.

Eric Tait has supplied the Berwick Pool League trophies for over twenty years and despite the fact he no longer lives in the town still continues to do so. George Thompson who is on the Trust Committee also happens to be the Pool league Secretary and it was on this date he was taking delivery of last seasons' pool trophies when the subject, as always turned to the Dream Team.

Eric mentioned that he had just spoken to the great wing wizard himself Peter Davidson and they were talking about the good old Berwick days when Eric mentioned that it would be great to see some more of the old players as well. At this point George had an idea that might just work, but he needed to run it past the Trust Committee.



■ THEN - the team of 79.
Top (L to R): Roddy Georgeson, Phil McAveety, Stuart Weatley, Jim Morton, Eric Tait, Pogo Smith & David Moyes.
Middle: (L to R): Dave Smith, Ian Whitehead, Kenny Rutherford, Peter Davidson, Billy Mathieson, Iain McLeod, John Jobson & Calum Frame.
Front (L to R): Donny McLeod, Brian Marshall, Ian Smith & Gordon Laing

Eric is the all time record appearance maker with 415 matches under his belt and also record goal scorer with 115 goals for the club and all were collected during and eighteen year career in which he was also Player Manager.

At the following Committee meeting his proposal was met with a unanimous decision to go for it and the Championship Dinner was under way with a date set for October 21. The date chosen in order to give plenty of time to organise the arrangements and also to coincide with the home match with Arbroath, which would give the club a chance to take part in the day as well.

Contact was made with Eric and he said that he would like to play a major part in it and would do most of the talking to the former players when they had been found. His idea was that even if they could not make the event he could at least talk to them.

More Snippets



NEW BOILER

The Trust have agreed to contribute £1500 towards the cost of a replacement boiler supplying the dressing rooms at Shielfield Park. The club had asked the Trust to contribute towards the upkeep of the stadium and the Trust were more than happy to oblige.

SUPPORTERS BUS TO FIFE

In a bid to get more supporters following the team away from home, the Trust organised a supporters bus to our Scottish Cup tie at East Fife in November. Committee members Mark Swanston and Paul Smith contacted both the Supporters Club and Football Club, who were only too happy to join the Trust in subsidising cheap travel. At just £5 per head we had no problem filling the coach. Check the Trust website for details of any future trips.

FANS PURCHASE NEW FLAG



A group of supporters have clubed together to buy a giant Berwick Rangers flag. They say they will be attending all future away games with the 16ft x 8ft flag. As you can see from the picture, it is quite impressive.

THANKS FOR DINNER

We received the following letter from Willie Young, following our Championship Dinner:

Dear Committee,

Many thanks to you and the rest of the Trust members for your hospitality and the great reception I got on Saturday night - I thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

I have been to many events all over the country and i have to say that for pure nostalgia the effort you all put in was the best i have seen.

Hope everything goes well for the future.

All the best.
Willie Young



CORPORATE MEMBERS

Following on from the success of our membership drive at the beginning of the year, we are now looking to sign up businesses as part of our **Corporate Membership Drive**. Corporate membership starts from just £5 per month - just £60 per year. You will receive a free advert on our new website, a corporate membership pack and also publicity in our regular newsletter and in the programme.

If you are interested in becoming a corporate member, please phone John Bell on 01289 333100 or email trust@berwick-rangers.co.uk.

Berwick Rangers Supporters Trust Newsletter - Issue 9

Committee: John Bell (Chairman), Colin Pike (Vice Chairman), Ronald Kirk, Keith Hall, Gordon Dickson (Treasurer), Eddie McCall, Mark Swanston, Bill Purvis, Derek Purvis, Paul Smith, George Thompson, Steven Scott, David Stewart & Karen Thorburn
Edited by Paul Smith. Designed & Printed by HB Print, 47 Bridge Street, Berwick-upon-Tweed (01289 307636)
Cover picture by Gordon Lockie. Thanks to **FunkyFoto** for sponsoring this issue.
Any future contributions can be sent to: 9-12 Golden Sq, Berwick. Or email trust@berwickrangers.co.uk



Championship Dinner *cont'd*

Fellow Committee members Paul Smith and David Cook were then entrusted to come up with sights and sounds of that season to add that special touch that would set the night off. Gordon Dickson yet another fellow Committee man had previously handed over a number of photos from the Championship season and that together with help from the Tweeddale Press, several trips to the library plus countless hours in front of a computer screen the end product was fantastic.

Paul Smith at HB Print produced the posters and the tickets, now all we had to do was sell the event. Advertising the event was going to be huge effort in itself as people seem to very lethargic towards the Dream Team especially any events that are set up to raise its profile. It was decided we needed to widen the net and the promotion of the event took on a more national look with the event mentioned in several Scottish Dailies, a couple of Sunday editions and mentions on the local radio stations.

Locally though we had the coup of Border TV wanting to do a live feed from the hallowed turf of Shielfield Park, this would get the coverage in the Border area that we could only dream about. The stage was set and the Committee chairman John Bell and Eric Tait's interviews went out live on Friday 13 October giving us the perfect ending to what proved to be a very productive advertising campaign, all of which was free.

Who says you cannot get anything for free these days!

Well, if no-one came now then it was not for the want of trying and with Eric having lots of luck attracting the players, a total of fifteen out of twenty six would eventually arrive to take their well deserved honour.

Berwick first joined the league in 1951 and since 1979 when they lifted the Championship flag Arbroath, East Fife, Stenhousemuir, East Stirling, Peterhead, Elgin City have all failed to achieve a league title, the latter two admittedly have had less time in the league set up.

It was a time to say thanks for the memories, a time to reminisce about the good old days, and both were achieved at the Kings Arms, Berwick on Sat 21 October when supporters of all ages paid homage to the players who gave us our only national league title.

Fans of all ages, some of whom had not been born when the Championship flag was hoisted at Shielfield arrived to pay respect to the returning heroes some of whom had not seen each other in over twenty years and all were eager to enjoy the occasion.

Fifteen players had been persuaded to travel to Berwick for the event, some travelling from far afield like Dave Smith coming down from Aberdeen, Kenny Rutherford up from Luton and Roy McDowell flying in from Spain just to make the event all of whom had been tracked down by Eric Tait.

No matter where the players had travelled from all were here to enjoy themselves and in Willie Young we had a speaker of the highest order.



Trust Appoint New Secretary

The Trust Board have appointed Mark Swanson as the new Trust Secretary. Mark, 22, is a long-standing Berwick Rangers supporter and joined the Board in April 2005. He is an active member of the younger generation of Trust members who have made a dynamic and innovative contribution to the work of the Trust.

The Board would like to pay tribute to the work of founder member David Cook, who Mark replaces as Secretary. He was responsible for the Trust becoming an industrial and provident society and for much of the early liaison with Supporters Direct which helped the Trust become established. David will remain a member of the Trust but has resigned from his role as Secretary to concentrate on work commitments. He will be assisting Mark with the preparation of papers for the April 2007 AGM.



Above: New Secretary Mark Swanson
Right: Retiring Secretary David Cook

Membership Report with Bill Purves



Since our last newsletter membership of the Trust has steadily increased with 15 new members being signed up and one former member has resumed his membership.

Unfortunately, for various reasons, we are still continuing to lose a few members but despite this membership has for the first time passed the 150 mark.

If you hear of anyone wishing to join the Trust please let me know or better still download an application form from the Trust website and get them to sign it!

As we wish to keep in regular touch with our membership please remember to let us know if you change your address. From time to time we also send email messages to members who have notified us of their email address. It appears however that some of the details we hold are out of date – so if you have recently acquired or changed your email address please update us!

Further information is available 24/7 on the Trust website- www.berwickrangers.co.uk

JOIN US ONLINE @
www.berwickrangers.co.uk or
email: trust@berwickrangers.co.uk



Supporters Trust Roadshow!

Over the past 6 months, the Trust have had a number of stalls at various public events in the local area, ranging from Bridge Street to Haggerston Castle.

We have found attending fayres an invaluable way of getting the name of the Trust in the public domain, as well as a useful way of promoting the club and official merchandise. We will be looking to attend even more events in 2007.

Green Festival

We took a stall at the annual *Green Festival* at Mill Farm, Tweedmouth on Sunday 2nd July. Although we didn't sell a great deal of merchandise, we were able to spread the word of the Trust to a slightly different audience.

Bridge Street Summer Fayre

On Sunday 13th August, the Trust organised a stall at the *Bridge Street Traders Summer Fayre*. Committee members were on hand to sign up new members, sell official club merchandise and even organised a penalty shoot-out competition, which proved very popular. Thank you to Trust member Mark Johnston for his services between the sticks.



Left: Committee member Gordon Dickson at our stall at Haggerston Castle Holiday Park
Right: Chris Flockhart taking part in our penalty shoot-out at Haggerston Castle

Haggerston Castle

A fortnight later we were back on the road - this time we visited the *Haggerston Castle Fun Day* on the August Bank Holiday. We were joined by manager John Coughlin along with players Tom Britton and Chris Flockhart. We organised another penalty shootout competition - this time we had first team 'keeper Flockhart in goal. Over 100 children took part in the competition - quite a few managed to squeeze in a few goals against Chris. Meanwhile, Coughlin was on hand to speak to visitors to the area about the fortunes of the team.

Bridge Street Christmas Fayre

We made a return visit to Bridge Street - this time for the *Christmas Fayre* on Sunday 3rd December. In 2005 we sold hundreds of pounds worth of merchandise. Unfortunately the extremely poor weather kept a lot of people in the house for the 2006 event. We did manage to sell between around £150 in club merchandise. We also spoke to a few fellow supporters who visited the stall.

Thank you to all who have visited our stalls.



150th Member is a Grand Sheik!



The Trust recently signed up John Burton of Sheffield as our 150th member, something of a landmark for us. Now the target is to hit 200!

John is actually a lifelong Rotherham United fan, but was introduced to Berwick Rangers during a family holiday in 1981. Nine years later he got to his first game, and since then has made it to Sheffield about 3 or 4 times each season.

So why join the Trust? In John's words; "Many thanks for welcoming me to the Trust as having read the

aims of the Trust on the excellent website I felt compelled to join. It is important that clubs such as Berwick and Rotherham have the backbone to remain viable and this can only be achieved with the backing of genuine supporters, and by being part of BRST I hope to be able to support the aims."



And the 'Grand Sheik'? John fulfils this role with the Sheffield branch of the Laurel and Hardy Appreciation Society. So we're delighted that he didn't sign up for Dundee United's 'Arabs Trust' but came to us instead!



Berwick Rangers Supporters Trust

Tel: 01289 333100 • Fax: 01289 309680

E-Mail: trust@berwickrangers.co.uk

Web: www.berwicktrust.co.uk

Postal: c/o 12 Golden Sq, Berwick-upon-Tweed

Formed in 2003, our Supporters Trust is one of over 150 in the UK. Our achievements since formation include the following:

- Gained a significant share holding in the football club through the purchase of shares
- Donated £500 to the youth set up for 2004/5.
- Provided, free of charge, various matchday programmes to the football club.
- Helped the football club with UEFA Club Licensing documents, which were crucial to the ongoing survival of the club.
- Donated £5000 with no strings attached to football club funds.
- Recruited over 150 members - almost half of our core home support.
- Provided members with a members pack, regular newsletter and website.
- Organised a range of fundraising events and activities in Berwick-upon-Tweed.
- Invested a further £10,000 in the football club by purchasing 10,000 shares.
- Donated £4500 to the BRFC Youth Initiative.
- Promised further investment to Youth set-up.
- Provided, free of charge, matchday programmes to the Initiative to sell at all games.
- Become the football club's biggest single shareholder with further share purchases.

JOIN FROM ONLY £2 PER MONTH!

SEASON 0607 HALF TERM REPORT

Consecutive wins over league leaders East Fife look as if they might transform Berwick Ranger's season, which began with 2 points thrown away to a very mediocre Albion Rovers outfit at Shielfield.

Despite the close season signing of old favourite Gary Wood, Rangers have looked lightweight up front for much of the campaign to date, but the return, at last, of a fitter and in-form Kevin Haynes seems to have done the trick, with the barnstorming Duckett hero forming a powerful alliance with the Ginger Ninja. The addition of the on-loan Irishman Dennis McLaughlin from Hearts has added another dimension to Ranger's attacking options, and where supporters once despaired of Ryan McCallum's half-hearted attempts to work out where the penalty box lay, they now have confidence that not only will Rangers create chances, but that a decent proportion of these will be taken.

A couple of 1st round exits in the minor cup competitions away to Ayr and then Hamilton were expected, but deprived Rangers of Gary Wood's services after he found himself on the wrong end of a disgraceful challenge on the South Lanarkshire plastic of the type that had Ben Thatcher cast as Public Enemy No. 1 south of the border. Despite returning to the fray earlier than expected clad in his Friday the 13th face mask, it took Gary some time to rediscover his form, but he seems to have got there now.

An unremarkable 1-0 victory at Arbroath on 12th August saw Rangers register an away win at the first time of asking, but they then came a cropper against arch-rivals Stenhousemuir, populated by half a dozen ex-Shielfield refuseniks, in a 1-0 home defeat despite the Gers' 10 men outplaying a crap Warriors outfit on the day. Rangers comfortably disposed of a hopeless Dumbarton outfit by 3-0 in their next home game on 26th August, with Thompson and Fraser impressing with strong performances in the middle of the park.

A dismal 1-0 loss followed at Hampden, then Rangers were held at home by a resurgent (take that in context) Shire outfit in a 2-2 draw at Shielfield. This was one we could easily have lost – Shire were the better side on the day. Imagine trying to explain that one to the legions of armchair Mags in town centre hostelrys on Saturday night. The Shire draw was followed up by a 2-0 humping away to East Fife on 16th September, and it has to be said that things were beginning to look pretty grim. Rangers could not score goals, and the early season promise of the new signings just had not materialised, with the honourable exception of the consistent Robbie Manson.

Rangers fortunes have taken a turn for the better since then, though there have been some hiccups on the way. The Methil embarrassment was followed up by a solid 2-1 win at bottom side Elgin, and included an impressive debut goal from McLaughlin. Mixing the highs with the lows, Rangers contrived to throw away a lead to lose 2-1 at home to a decent Montrose outfit the following week. They followed this up with 3 consecutive wins, away to Albion Rovers (1-0) despite being under the cosh for long spells and Wood missing a penalty, home to Arbroath (3-2), where the Black & Gold did their best to chuck a 3-goal lead, and at home to Queens Park (1-0).

Rangers have hovered around the fringes of a play-off spot for most of the season, but handicapped their cause with a 2-0 defeat at Dumbarton on 4th November. They restored their credentials the following week however, their best 45 minutes of the season helping them to a 2-1 home win over leaders East Fife. Their new-found confidence was given a further boost with a 3-1 win in the first round of the Scottish Cup at Methil on 11th November. A home tie in the 2nd round against a pretty ordinary Arbroath side is encouraging hopes of a glamour 3rd round tie against one of the big names. Livingston anyone?

John Coughlin has worked wonders to keep his squad in the frame this season, particularly after having to replace the five experienced players who departed to Stenhousemuir in the summer, with a mix of untested juniors and fringe players from other league sides. Some have not worked out – notably McCallum and Shand, but others, such as Thompson, Manson, Fraser, Noble, David Greenhill and Notman (until his untimely injury) have been qualified successes. All will be better players with a season at this level under their belts. Coughlin's side tries to play football the right way, with good movement and passing to feed the guiding principles. OK, so it does not always work, but I'd much rather watch a side try and play football on the deck than a bunch of Bolton wannabes humping the ball skywards for 90 minutes.

Seasoned supporters have remarked how poor a league the 3rd Division is, with only Jablonski at East Fife, Johnston at Elgin and Weatherston at Queens Park impressing for the opposition. If Rangers could call on the services of long-term absentees Swanston and Little, they'd probably be top of the league by now. They still have a good chance of finishing there, but the division lacks an outstanding team and at least half a dozen other outfits will fancy their chances of winning the title.

Off the field? Not much seems to have changed, as the letters page of the Berwick Advertiser proves, but the joint sponsorship of the supporters bus to the East Fife cup tie gives some grounds for optimism. Rumours of the club being up for sale – whether these had some foundation or not – clearly had an unsettling effect on the team, and the fact that these were referred to by the manager in the national press suggests that they were being taken seriously, at least for a time. These have subsequently been denied by a board member in the local press, and it is to be hoped that the club can now focus on its on-field exploits. After all, that's why we go to watch our team every week.





Trust Race Night

The Trust held an extremely successful race night at The Pilot Inn on Friday, 8th September.

BRFC manager John Coughlin and his partner Kirsty were guests of honour at the event, which took place at The Pilot Inn, courtesy of mine host and Trust board member, Spadge.

The race night made a profit in excess of £600, despite Kirsty's unnatural gift for picking winners, selected from a stable of nags named after illustrious Berwick characters drawn from the present and the not-too-distant past. The funds raised will help underwrite other Trust activity over the coming year.

Attendance at the race night was excellent, with punters comprising a good mix of Trust members, locals and visitors from nearby Berwick Holiday Centre. Master of Ceremonies Colin Pike did his John McCrirrick thing, adding his own stylistic flourish to proceedings (don't ask), and big thanks to Andy and his mate for running the race night at no cost and joining the Trust into the bargain. Now that's what I call true partnership working.

Also thanks to Coff and Kirsty, who are regular supporters of Trust events. We'll be arranging more race nights in 2007 – watch this space.



■ Manager John Coughlin pictured with your Supporters Trust committee



Trust Shop Update



Left: Our Shop at Shielfield Park
Above: Our Town Centre outlet at Tyne & Tweed, West Street

For those who don't know, the Club Shop dealing with merchandising, is run by the Supporter's Trust.

Here are some brief details about the shop and its operation.

- All stock is bought and paid for from a separate account, the signatories being the same as the main Trust account.
- No funds from elsewhere are invested into the stock, therefore all orders are funded from income.
- The income from the shop can vary match to match but generally if takings are below £100, it's been a very bad day. This contracts with the situation a number of years ago when takings in excess of £100 were rare
- Annual income fluctuates between £4000 and £9000. The difference usually indicates a season when a new strip design has come out.
- For season 05/6, our working profit was £421.
- In the same year we donated £412 worth of stock to the football club. This usually comes in the form of strips for sponsors, visiting teams etc. This season (06/7) we have already exceeded £300 in stock donations to the club.
- All stock is sourced by the Trust. The only exception to this is the strip, which is done by the club.

- The cost to us of getting a strip is £25, which means that we make a profit of £10 per item. Therefore for one donated strip, we have to sell another 2 ½ just to break even.

This is a brief summary of the workings of everything Black and Gold that's worth wearing.

Availability;

- Club shop on matchdays
- To the club address
- To the Trust address
- Tyne & Tweed in West Street, Berwick

A shortage of strips;

This year we have encountered a problem with the supply of home tops for the club shop. We were informed in November that an order, made in August, was not going to be processed.

After some representations we were told that we would get the order, but the date promised was 21st December. This is no good for Christmas. Consequently we cancelled the order, bearing in mind that the current top has only five months to run.

We apologise to all those disappointed supporters but we believe this was a difficulty that we couldn't reasonably anticipate.



Trust Produce Youth Programmes

Following on from our first year of sponsoring the Youth Initiative, an idea incidentally which found almost unanimous favour amongst members attending our last AGM, the Society Board decided to continue in a similar vein this season.

However due to ever increasing demands on our funds we were unable to commit to a similar amount. After some deliberation Vice-Chairman Colin Pike suggested producing a match programme to be sold at the U19 matches with the Initiative retaining the proceeds.

Board member Paul Smith "joined the team" and the idea was taken forward.

Several members of the Society Board met with ex head of the Initiative Dave Buglass and put the idea to him. Dave was as enthusiastic as we were and an agreement was reached.

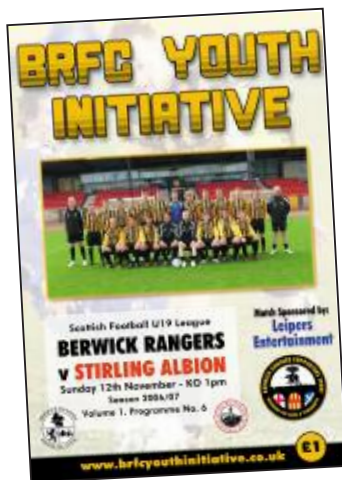
In practice what this would mean is that Colin Pike would edit the production with Paul designing and printing the finished article.

We decided on an 8 page issue in full colour, which all agreed would not only give the Initiative much needed instant cash but also

raise their profile and make their organisation, and infact games more professional. If that wasn't enough it also gave them a double opportunity to talk to those attending their games. This being in the form of two articles in each issue, one from the Head of Initiative and the other from the team manager.

A further advertising opportunity was offered at this stage, with the Trust giving over a page to the Initiative to fill. This they successfully did, again, earning them more much needed cash. With the change at the head of the Initiative, we met recently with Robert Johnson and brought him up to date with our plans, and suffice to say Robert is as enthusiastic as his predecessor.

At this stage of the season we have produced 6 issues which have sold well at all their games. We will continue to produce for the remaining games. We are rightly proud of our efforts as we continue to support what may well be first teamers of the future. One interesting point to note. As far as I'm aware ourselves and the other Rangers (from Glasgow) are the only two clubs in Scotland who regularly produce programmes at under19 level.



Berwick Rangers
directory enquiries... 1 18813
 Call 118813 the only number you need!
 Calls cost 49p, of which 9p is donated to our Youth Fund



Championship Dinner cont'd

Willie who had officiated as a referee at the highest level for twenty years recalled tales not just about the stars of the modern game, but recalled occasions involving Berwick, including admitting for the first time that the penalty to Falkirk in 1997 never was!

To be there for that moment was worth it alone as we could then dream of what might have been as Falkirk were beaten by Kilmarnock in the final that year. With the alcohol now in full flow it was then left to the players to take the stand to give us an insight into that season. Understandably they were nervous about it and only one or two recalled tales.

To mark the occasion Dave Smith and Eric Tait were presented with framed Berwick tops stating their achievement. Dave was

awarded his for being the Berwick player of the millennium, Eric for making the most appearances and also being the top goal scorer in history.

All in all it was fantastic evening and the organisers, particularly Paul Smith whose creative genius ensured the nostalgia continued through the night with placemats, menu, music and a running montage of photos and news clippings all depicting the wonderful season that was 1978/79.

It was a fitting tribute to a team of players who had never been acknowledged by the club since the feat and all seemed to enjoy the occasion, some of whom were even spotted in the local night spots later that morning still living it up.



Eric Tait receives his award



Dave Smith is presented with his award



The 79 team enjoying the night



Guest speaker Willie Young



DIRECTORY ENQUIRIES

Funds raised up to September for the 118813 number was £16.27, maybe not a large amount of money but for something you would do anyway it's OK

AMAZON

By clicking on to the Amazon link on the website a proportion of what you spend goes to the Trust. At the end of July our first payment was £20.27. Which probably amounts to the number of CDs Cook bought that month! Another dead simple way to raise funds and brings money back to Berwick, all with a click of a button.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Along with this newsletter there are a number of additional items;

Trust Badge – this should have been out to you sooner but logistical problems meant that it didn't get to you. This badge is unique to trust members only, although there have been one or two that have found their way to non members.

2007 Calendar – a TRUE Black and Gold affair. Pictures supplied by Trust members Kevin McCormick and Doug Stenhouse. Hopefully this will become an annual event (calendars usually are), but this depends getting the advertisers, so if you have a possible please let us know for next year – 2008. If you want an additional copy, then the cost is £5, or £6 by post.

Energy Saving Trust – As part of our commitment at our last AGM to pursue Green Issues we have teamed up with the EST. Part of this is to reduce your own energy bills. Consequently we have enclosed a few leaflets on how to do this (see later article).

If you think that the Newsletter is turning into Sunday Supplement hell, then don't worry. So if you're thinking of writing a fashion section or reviewing the Borat film, don't ring us, we'll ring you.

TRUST MEET WITH STAGGIES

Society Board members Paul Smith, Colin Pike and Mark Swanston done "the honours" on Friday 15th of December as members of the Ross County Trust set off on their fund raising trip around all the Scottish grounds within 24 hours, having chosen Berwick as their starting point. Committee member Edward Rush takes up the story :-

"My name is Edward Rush and I am on the Save Our Staggies committee. We are a group of supporters of Ross County football club who's aims are to raise funds for our club in what has been a difficult financial time for them.

On the 15th December we are embarking on our latest fundraising adventure and wondered if you would like to help us in a small way.

I have managed to get the clubs mini bus and I am presently filling it with supporters who are donating £30 each to come on our stadium tour. The idea is to visit all 42 SPL and SFL grounds in Scotland in 24 HOURS. We are planning to leave Dingwall around 7am and drive to Berwick's ground where we will start the clock. We aim to arrive between 12-12.30pm.

I wondered if any of your trust members might like to meet us and perhaps cut the red tape at the start?. Its always good to meet like minded supporters and this will be a good chance for us to set off in style".

Regards, Edward.

CENTRAL BORDERS SC

Spearheaded by committee member Derek Purvis, the CBSC meet at the Salmon Inn in Galashiels every second Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm. Fellow supporters are invited along to discuss the club's fortunes, offer opinions on the team and to organise trips to both home and away games.

The CBSC would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has helped launch the club, especially Davie Walkins at Radio Borders and 'The Southern Reporter'.



NOW - (L to R) Dave Smith, Calum Frame, Ian Smith, Ian Whitehead, Stuart Wheatley, Pogo Smith, Roddy Georgeson, Iain McLeod, Peter Davidson, Eric Tait, Alan Walker, Roy McDowell, Willie Mathieson, Kenny Rutherford & Brian Marshall

Whilst Eric started the ball rolling on the playing side, the Committee were tasked to come up with ideas and suggestions to make the night as memorable as possible and true to form came up trumps, with some inspirational ideas.

It was decided that a speaker was needed to add to the occasion and after an attempt to get hold of Jim Leishman who apart from being an exceptional after dinner speaker has also been long associated with Dunfermline Athletic the team of course beaten to the title in 78-79.

Jim was also playing for Cowdenbeath that season in the same league as well. Eventually the decision was made and we went for Willie Young. Willie has

officialiated at matches throughout the world in a number of competitions and it would certainly prove interesting to hear things from a refereeing perspective instead of an ex player.

The Dream Team had even encountered Willie on a few occasions, including the famous disallowed goal by Kevin Walton at Brockville during one of the clubs good cup runs in the nineties. It would be intriguing to see if he remembers and whether or not he can come up with a good reason for disallowing it.

The venue that was chosen was the Kings Arms, a hotel based in the centre of Berwick, things were now starting to take shape and there was light at the end of the tunnel.